

Torrance, California
May 9, 1950

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on Tuesday, May 9, 1950, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Spelman moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 25th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for opening bids for the construction of a recreation office and storeroom, and Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Carter Mack Builders	\$ 8,065.00
Brewer-Webb Construction Co.	7,481.00
Don B. Wolf	6,833.25
Walter Wiitanen	6,335.00
Mayo Construction Co.	8,300.00
Arnold Schleuniger	6,880.00
M. E. Didier Co.	9,998.00

Councilman Powell moved all bids be referred to the City Manager and City Council for study and contract awarded next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Mayor Haggard then announced the time had come for opening bids for a police car and Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Schultz & Peckham	Ford	\$ 1,870.00
Paul's Chevrolet	Chevrolet	1,704.05

Councilman Powell moved the bids be referred to the Chief of Police and City Manager for their recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following correspondence:

Letter from Tidewater Associated Oil Company reporting no franchise earnings under County Ord. 1014 for the calendar year ending April 30, 1950. Matter of record.

Letter from Mayor Wortham, of Redondo Beach, inviting the Council to attend a band concert in their City Park on May 14th. Matter of record.

Letter from Mayor Wortham urging support and cooperation in Redondo's efforts to obtain a small boat harbor. Councilman Powell moved the Mayor be authorized to sign a letter of "commendation and consideration" on behalf of the City of Torrance in supporting the action of Redondo in acquiring the yacht harbor, but with the understanding Torrance would not participate in the financing thereof. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board urging the employment of additional inspectors -- building, plumbing and electrical -- to protect future homeowners. Councilman Drale moved the communication be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from B. C. Buxton, realtor, offering approximately 10 acres at Border Ave. and Plaza del Amo to the City, on behalf of his client, for \$21,000. Councilman Powell moved the letter be filed as a matter of record as the property would receive consideration under the City Manager's recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from John A. Paap re-opening his previous request to operate a dump on certain Standard Oil property in Tract No. 2200. The matter was discussed at great length, with Mr. Paap stating he would make the City a price of 50¢ per load for the first 25 loads and \$1.00 per load for the next 75 loads, or possibly a cost plus 20% arrangement. His intended price to "Mr. Citizen" is \$1.50 a load. Only solid materials would be taken -- rock, concrete, excavation dirt, etc. City Manager Stevens advised the Council that the City would probably never exceed the 25 loads as we had very little of that type of material to dump, and that our usual type load should not be used to fill this particular pit as it would limit the future use of the property. Councilman Blount moved that Mr. Paap's request be granted and that the City Attorney be authorized to draw up the permit or contract on the basis of Mr. Paap's oral offer of 50¢ for the first 25 loads, etc. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Notice from City Treasurer Fordice that she had appointed Charles A. Curtiss as Deputy City Treasurer in her absence. Matter of record.

Petition signed by 90% of the property owners along and abutting "Nance Lane" (178th St.) requesting the street be maintained as a public street. Councilman Powell moved the communication be referred to the Street Superintendent and City Manager for their recommendation at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Petition signed by 26 residents requesting removal of weeds from center parkway strip on Torrance Blvd. from Madrid to Crenshaw. Councilman Powell moved the petition be referred to the Park Superintendent and Park Commissioner for their recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Petition from residents and property owners living in the vicinity of Border Ave. and Plaza del Amo urging the purchase of the property at Plaza Del Amo and Border containing the old brick yard pit for use as a city dump and that some day the entire property be used as a playground and park. As this is the property referred to in Mr. Buxton's letter and Mr. Steven's recommendations, petition was ordered filed as a matter of record.

Petition with 52 signatures urging that El Prado be made a one-way street with stop signs to avoid traffic accidents. Councilman Powell moved the petition be referred to the Traffic Commission and City Manager for their recommendation at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

AB 6940

Letter from Mr. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, submitting petition signed by 51 residents re installation of sanitary sewers in Tracts 1952, 3757 and 10185. As the matter was on City Manager Steven's agenda, no action taken.

Petition from City employees requesting unused sick leave in excess of 30-day maximum be applied to vacation leave and Civil Service Rules and Regulations amended accordingly. Accompanied by recommendation of Civil Service Board that request be complied with. Councilman Powell moved that the Chairman of the Civil Service Board meet with the City Attorney and City Council at the next regular agenda meeting to outline the request in more detail. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Mr. Patrick submitting letter from Harold Barnett on behalf of Victor Gerard, a subdivider, requesting sidewalk requirements in Tract No. 15569 be changed to a 2' concrete sidewalk in lieu of the required 2' plant-mix walk. Councilman Drale moved the request be denied and that the subdivider comply with the ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Clerk Bartlett advised the Mayor he had a memorandum that Commission vacancies were to be filled at this meeting of the Council, to which the Mayor replied no appointments would be made as the matter had not been discussed at the last agenda meeting.

Clerk Bartlett also reminded the Council of the intended vacation of the alleys in Shady Nook Tract. City Manager Stevens reviewed the situation, following which Councilman Powell moved that, in concurrence with the recommendation of the City Manager and Planning Commission, the City Attorney be authorized to draw the necessary ordinance vacating the alleys in Shady Nook Tract. Motion, seconded by Mayor Haggard, carried.

Letter from City Manager Stevens advising of personnel appointments, as follows:

1. James S. Dresser, Building Inspector, to serve his probationary period effective May 15, 1950, at a compensation set as the first step for the position.
2. Henry Meyer West, Assistant Building Inspector, to serve his probationary period effective May 15, 1950, at a compensation set as the first step for the position.
3. Arthur S. Moore, Plumbing Inspector, to serve his probationary period effective May 15, 1950, at a compensation set as the first step for the position.
4. Kenwood Elton Christensen, Stockroom and Record Man, to serve his probationary period effective May 15, 1950, at a compensation set as the fifth step for the position.
5. Milton T. Langum, Engineer, Fire Department, credited with one year's service during War Emergency period, which was not previously counted. Adjustment to be made for back pay and advancement of one step for future pay to give credit for the additional year of service.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the appointments. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter of recommendations of City Manager Stevens as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For materials and maintenance of portions of Calle Mayor and Calle Miramar, the sum of \$1,000 (from County Aid Funds).
2. For the purchase of a Deluge Gun, 500 M.T. deck pipe, complete with running board bracket and one top mounting, the sum of \$516.94 plus tax.
3. For the purchase of a tank to be used at the City Dump, the sum of \$400.00.

4. That the City establish a uniform basis of payment for the use of private vehicles in performing City duties, based on the following schedule: 7¢ per mile for the first 300 miles, 6¢ per mile for the next 300 miles and 5¢ per mile for all mileage above 600 miles. The fees and mileage to be on a monthly basis.

Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY:

1. That lots 20 and 21, Tract No. 5944, located at the Southwest corner of Huber Avenue and Torrance Blvd., be purchased at the price of \$2,000 each, to complete the City's property acquisition at that location.
2. That the property at Plaza Del Amo and Border Avenue, approximately ten acres in area and containing the old brick yard pit, be purchased. The City to use the pit as a fill-and-cover and cut-and-cover dump until the pit is filled. The pit in question must be filled and I feel that the City can best do this to the advantage of the City as a whole and to the property owners in the immediate vicinity. If the property is purchased, the City would clear the premises and fence in the pit. The filling would be orderly and controlled and when finished would make available land for recreation and park purposes.

Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendation as to Item 1. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. After discussion at some length, Councilman Powell moved that decision as to Item 2 be withheld until the Council could make a "fund analysis". Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. If the City Engineering Office is authorized to proceed with the preparation of an Assessment District for sewers in the section bounded by Sepulveda Blvd., Washington Street, Cherry Ave. and Cabrillo Ave., in accordance with the petition presented, I recommend that the City retain Mr. Barnett to handle the assessment details.
2. That proceedings be started for the vacation of alleys in Shady Nook Tract in accordance with the agreement with the developer.
3. That proceedings be started for the vacation of portions of 244th St. between Hawthorne Blvd. and Madison Ave.

Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale interrupted to ask the City Manager about his recommendation for an examination to be called for City Engineer, as no such recommendation appeared in his communication. He was advised a letter requesting such an examination would be presented to the Civil Service Board on Wednesday.

Letter from City Manager Stevens advising that at the previous meeting he had been requested to submit his recommendation as to the request of Dr. Moshos for the removal of certain trees on his property at Carson and Western in return for a 10' easement and that he recommended the City cut the trees and leave them on the property to be disposed of by the owner. Councilman Spelman moved that the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Planning Commission re the following matters:

"CASE NO. 189: Petition of Property Management for a Change of Zone affecting the northwest corner of 170th St. and Crenshaw Blvd., having a frontage of 130' on Crenshaw and 124.09' on 170th St. This property is located in an R-2 (Two-family Residential) Zone and it is requested that it be changed to a C-1 (Retail Commercial) Zone.

It was the recommendation of the Commission that this request be denied, upon the basis that the recent rezoning of the North Torrance area had created a considerable amount of new business property and that conditions at this time did not warrant additional business zoning. It will be necessary that the third and final public hearing be held before your body, the date of which cannot legally be set before June 13, 1950, in order to comply with the public notice requirements."

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be tabled until it could be discussed at the joint meeting of the Council and Planning Commission on Wednesday, May 10th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

"TRACT MAP NO. 15757: Submitted by Mac-Low-Men Corporation, consisting of 283 lots and located south of Redondo Beach Blvd. and west of Prairie Ave., formerly known as Bay Cities Airport.

This map was recommended for approval, subject to the following:

- (a) That requirements of F.H.A. be conformed with.
- (b) That all lots (Nos. 43-50) next to the parking area (No. 42) be restricted to R-2 (Two-Family Residential) dwellings."

Councilman Powell moved the Council approve the Tract Map with the provision that the sewer maintenance district, as outlined by Mr. Stevens, be at no expense to the City of Torrance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to

ORDINANCE NO. 507

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE NO. 443.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 507 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 508

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 508 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 509

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 185.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 509 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 510

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOR-
RANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSI-
FYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING
COMMISSION CASE NO. 184.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of the Ordinance be dis-
pensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unani-
mously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption
of Ordinance No. 510 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Coun-
cilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 511

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOR-
RANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSI-
FYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING
COMMISSION CASE NO. 187.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the
Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unani-
mously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption
of Ordinance No. 511 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by
Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reminded the Council that some time ago
Mr. Patrick had asked to be relieved of his duties as Secretary of
the Planning Commission and was once again making his request and
recommending that he be replaced by Mr. Lloyd. Mr. Stevens rec-
ommended that action be taken on the matter. Councilman Blount
moved Mr. Patrick's resignation as Secretary of the Planning Com-
mission be accepted and that a letter of "thanks" be written him,
and that Mr. Lloyd be appointed as Secretary of the Planning Commis-
sion. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Councilman Drale reminded the audience to report all broken side-
walks, etc., to the City Manager.

Councilman Blount moved the City Attorney be instructed to pre-
pare a resolution appointing City Manager Stevens to represent the
City on the Metropolitan Water Board. Motion, seconded by Council-
man Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard appointed Councilman Powell to the Traffic Commis-
sion. Councilman Powell declined because of other commission appoint-
ments and suggested that Councilman Drale be appointed. Appointment
so made. Mayor Haggard then announced that Chief Stroh was appointed
as Chairman of the Commission.

Councilman Powell asked if the Mayor had been formally appointed
as representative to the County Sanitation District. No action having
been taken, Councilman Drale moved the necessary resolution be drawn.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

There being no oral communications from the audience, Councilman
Powell moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by
Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:45 p.m. Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned. Mo-
tion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

AB6910